

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application.

An Office Communication mailed August 4, 2003, was received requesting Applicants to “furnish the Patent Office with the closest prior art relative to the part of claims 2 which excludes compounds from the generic claim therein. See page 9, lines 14 to 22.”

After review of Claim 2, Applicants believe that the Examiner meant to recite page 98, at lines 14-22. Applicants’ remarks made herein are made on the basis of that belief.

A proviso in Claim 2 on page 98, at lines 14-22 excludes three species from the sulfonylaminocarbonyl derivatives of Formula I in Claim 2. Applicants have not furnished herewith “the closest prior art relative to the part of claims 2 which excludes compounds from the generic claim therein” as the Examiner requested because the proviso was not written into Claim 2 to overcome any prior art problem known to Applicants at the time of filing. Rather the proviso was written because Applicants did not have at the time of filing a reasonable basis for believing the three species would inhibit NF- $\kappa$ B transcription factors according to the Biological Method of pages 74-81, and thus would be useful in the method of Claim 2. Applicants based their decision upon observed but unexplainable inhibitory activity for the three species, particularly negative percent inhibition for each at a concentration of 10  $\mu$ M.

Applicants incorporate herein by reference to their Response to a Restriction Requirement Under 35 U.S.C. § 121, Paper No. 6.

Applicants respectfully request examination of Claims 1-13, 15, and 30 in accordance with the previous restriction requirement and Applicants’ previous response thereto, and passage of patentable claims to allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account number 23-0455.

The undersigned would welcome a telephone call from the Examiner to discuss any matters related to this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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